

123. A method for handling messages in a unified messaging system where messages are delivered via a television network, the method comprising:

5 selecting messages addressed to a user in said unified messaging system;  
receiving signals corresponding to said messages via said television network; and,  
outputting said messages on a television set coupled to said television distribution network;

13 recording an outgoing message;

digitizing said outgoing message; and,

10 automatically packaging said message in an outgoing e-mail message and sending said outgoing message.

125. A method for handling messages, adapted to operate in conjunction with a messaging server constructed to forward messages, and with a television distribution system having a downstream network constructed to carry signals and selectively distribute said signals to a plurality of terminals connected thereto, wherein said terminal is constructed to selectively display an image corresponding to said signal on a television screen, and an upstream network capable of delivering user input signals, the method comprising the steps of:

15 receiving a plurality of messages directed to a particular user in a messaging server;  
20 from a television messaging gateway, transmitting a signal corresponding to at least one of said messages to a terminal associated with a user via said downstream network;  
displaying said message on a television set coupled to said addressable terminal; and,  
recording a user voice, and embedding said voice within an outgoing message.

129. A system for handling messages adapted to operate in conjunction with a television distribution system having a downstream network constructed to carry signals and selectively distribute said signals to a plurality of terminals connected thereto, wherein at least one of said terminals is constructed to selectively display an image corresponding to said signal on a television screen, operating in conjunction with an upstream network constructed to deliver user input signals to a central location, the system comprising:

25 a distributed television messaging gateway, having a message control interface for  
30 selecting at least one message from a unified messaging server, said message having